

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
October 14, 2013

The Honorable Council of the City of Evansville met on regular session at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 14, 2013 in the City Council Chambers, Room 301 Civic Center Complex, Evansville, Indiana, with President Connie Robinson presiding. The following business was conducted.

These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript. Audiotapes of this meeting are on file in the City Clerk's Office.

ROLL CALL:

Present: McGinn, Mosby, Brinkerhoff-Riley, Friend, Lindsey, Adams, Weaver, Robinson

Absent: O'Daniel

There being eight (8) members present and one (1) member absent and eight (8) members representing a quorum, I hereby declare this session of the Common Council officially open.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

This evening the Pledge of Allegiance is led by Councilman Weaver.

Fellow Councilmen and those in the audience, welcome to the October 14, 2013 meeting of the Common Council.

TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

Emily Lane of Signature School

COUNCIL ATTORNEY

This evening we have Verdelski Miller is City Council Attorney.

SERGEANT AT ARMS

This evening Officer Mattingly is Sergeant at Arms.

READING AND AMENDMENT OF MINUTES

Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9th, September 23rd, and September 30th, 2013 meetings of the Common Council as written?

Councilman Friend moved and Councilwoman Mosby seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meetings of the Common Council held September 9, September 23, and September 30, 2013 as written. Voice vote. So ordered.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

IN YOUR OCTOBER 11, 2013 PACKET

*Finance Ordinances F-2013-17, F-2013-18, F-2013-19, F-2013-20

*Rezoning Ordinances R-2013-20, R-2013-21

*Redevelopment Commission Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2013.

*Funding Request from Central Dispatch for Communication Upgrade Project

*Dave Garrett's analysis of the City's December 31st bank reconciliation and the Controller's response

ON YOUR DESK THIS EVENING:

- *Area Plan Report dated October 11, 2013
- *Ordinances G-2013 Amended and R-2013-24
- *A Resolution from Central Dispatch concerning 911 Capital Improvement Funds
- *Financial Report from August 2013

EMAILED MATERIAL:

- *City Council Meeting Minutes from the September 9th, September 23rd, and September 30th Council Meetings

President Robinson: Can I have a motion to receive, file and make these reports and communications a part of the minutes of the meeting.

Councilwoman Mosby moved and Councilman Friend seconded the motion to receive file and make these reports and communications a part of the minutes of the meeting. Voice vote. So ordered.

CONSENT AGENDA

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCE F-2013-17 FINANCE FRIEND

An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana appropriating monies for the purpose of defraying the expenditures of departments of the City Government for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014

ORDINANCE F-2013-18 FINANCE FRIEND

An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Evansville approving and adopting the 2014 Budget for the Port Authority of Evansville

ORDINANCE F-2013-19 FINANCE FRIEND

An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Evansville, Indiana appropriating monies for the purpose of defraying the expenditures of Vanderburgh County Levee Authority for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014

ORDINANCE F-2013-20 FINANCE FRIEND

An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Evansville authorizing transfers of appropriations, additional appropriations and repeal and re-appropriations of funds for various city funds

ORDINANCE R-2013-20 TO APC R-5 to C-2

An Ordinance to Rezone Certain Real Estate in the City of Evansville, State of Indiana, more commonly known as 102 and 104 West Illinois Street

Petitioner: City of Evansville/Redevelopment Commission
Owners: Evansville Redevelopment Commission
Representative: Philip Hooper
District: Brinkerhoff-Riley, Ward 3

ORDINANCE R-2013-21**TO APC****C-1 to R-1**

An Ordinance to Rezone Certain Real Estate in the City of Evansville, State of Indiana, more commonly known as 1917 E Franklin Street

Petitioner: Charles A Becker, Sr.

Owners: Same

Representative: Same

District: Brinkerhoff-Riley, Ward 3

President Robinson: Is there a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as written?

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley moved and Councilwoman Mosby seconded the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as written. Voice vote. So ordered.

CONSENT AGENDA**SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS****ORDINANCE G-2013-17****ASD (Brinkerhoff-Riley)****ADAMS**

An Ordinance amending sections 18.12.090, 18.145.050, and 18.135.080 of the Evansville Municipal Code

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**ASD COMMITTEE:****CHAIRMAN BRINKERHOFF-RILEY**

Chairman Brinkerhoff-Riley: Madam President, your ASD Committee met this evening to hear Ordinance G-2013-17 as amended and it's being held until November 18, 2013 at 5:20 p.m.

President Robinson: Okay, thank you.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There will not be a City Council Meeting next Monday, October 21, 2013. The next meeting of the Common Council will be Monday, October 28, 2013. Committee meetings will begin at 5:15 p.m.

Rodney Buchanan – Approval to use CIP Funds for Vanderburgh County/Evansville Central Dispatch Study

Rodney Buchanan: Thank you. Good evening. Rodney Buchanan, Central Dispatch.

If you look in your packets, I gave you some information for a communications upgrade project that we are looking at at Central Dispatch. What that says essentially is we met with the Harris Corporation, which provides our present infrastructure at Central Dispatch, and we're facing "end of life" issues within the next five to six years. With that being said, we met with the City and the County attorneys and felt that the best direction with a project of this magnitude would be to retain a consultant for the project. With the direction of the Harris Corporation, they gave us a couple of consulting firms to interview that specialize in the area of public safety communications upgrades and at that point, we looked at the one that we thought would best fit our needs in Vanderburgh County and we are asking for \$60,000 from the Capital Improvement Funds from our 911 fund. In that fund right now, we have \$767,000. We went to the County Council last week; they approved the use of it and I am asking for your approval at this time.

President Robinson: Do we have any questions? Councilman Adams.

Councilman Adams: When do you think your report will be done and when would you think you'd be coming back to us with more details about what your plans are?

Rodney Buchanan: Dr. Adams, I really don't know for sure. We are going to start very soon. We've contacted the consultant company and to do the coverage study that they have to do to optimize that, they have to do it while the leaves are still on the trees so we have them coming in, upon approval of Council tonight; coming in this Thursday. They said for their needs assessment, they're gonna interview first responders and they're gonna interview the four main users of our communications system for kind of a "wish list", and then they're gonna help us develop the RFP, and like I said, do the coverage study. So to answer your question, hopefully within maybe two to three months they might give us something. And to answer the second part of your question, you know we just wanted to start on this soon enough. Like I said, we have five to six years. We don't know if we are going to do it in phases. We know that there's possibly gonna be an additional tower that's gonna have to be constructed on the north side of the County. That's where a lot of our coverage area is...coverage problems are right now, so we don't know if we are gonna phase the project in. Like I said, that's why the consultant is coming in. Hopefully he'll give us the right direction.

Councilman Adams: Great. Thank you.

Rodney Buchanan: You're welcome.

President Robinson: Are there any questions from any other Councilmembers? Anyone in the audience?

Can I have a motion to approve?

Councilman Adams: So moved.

Councilman Friend: Second.

President Robinson: Councilman Adams moved and Councilman Friend seconded the motion to approve the use of CIP funds for Vanderburgh County/Evansville Central Dispatch Study. Voice vote. So ordered. Thank you.

Rodney Buchanan: Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

Mayor's Office Presentation on Roberts Park

President Robinson: Next, we'll have a presentation on Roberts Park from the Mayor's office.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Madam President, Members of Council, Steve Schaefer, Chief of Staff for the Mayor. Thank you for the opportunity to provide a brief update on the Roberts Park plan as it is timely. With budget coming up, we thought it would be good to get in front of you to let you know about our efforts.

Our team, led by Jeff Justice, is currently developing the final plan, which we intend to have a public view unveiling in the very near future. Hopefully in the November timeframe.

Initially it was our hope to have the multi-phase plan done by this time but with the hundreds of comments from the public and the input that was received, all of that has been digested and we're actually making changes to the plan, which Jeff will comment on later. But the bottom line is that hundreds of constructive comments have been taken in; we've listened and made some changes.

At the very beginning, as you know, it was estimated that the cost of the park would be in the range of six to eight million dollars, spread out over several years in a multi-phase plan, not to burden our capital funds during that time and the Mayor is committed to that range.

Since the initial announcement, numerous civic organizations, private sector, and other entities, even the State of Indiana, have verbalized interest in being a partner in this project so we're certainly hopeful that costs will come down and potentially replace some of the public investment. The one thing we do know for sure is that the 1.5 million dollar request in the CIP for 2014 is certainly for park infrastructure and I think Jeff is going to mention a little bit about that.

Obviously, it is separate from some of the other financial commitments in the area, including the pedestrian crosswalk at Vann and the Lloyd Expressway, which is set to begin construction in early 2015, and also the fund raising campaign, the private sector fund raising campaign, 1.5 million for Wesselman Nature Center. All of that is currently underway and a nice component to the overall effort.

When you think about this project, it's more than just the space where Roberts Stadium sat; it's about connectivity and the existing amenities in the area. And as Mayor Winnecke continues to say, the piece of property is a once in a lifetime opportunity to enhance the greenspace of our city. We are very excited and convinced that the best use of the property is for greenspace and we look very forward to the public unveiling in the near future. We based this on recommendations from land use experts, realtors and others. There have been previous master plans: 2003 to 2007, 2009 to 2012, the CVB study, all making similar recommendations for that property in the absence of a stadium. With that, it should be noted that the Administration does not intend to include this location in its formal response to the RFP for the proposed medical education center, when that RFP comes out in October.

Put simply, the financial tools available for the downtown area will yield significantly greater incentives as we've demonstrated through the hotel process, the Downtown TIF versus the site of the former stadium, which is Parks property with limited bonding capacity, just about 20 million dollars.

As you know, the process began, following a yearlong public discussion over the future of Roberts Stadium, and then also, the \$150,000 planning grant from the Welborn Foundation.

Kevin Bain and Andrea Hayes are here this evening and are going to share a few comments, and then to conclude, Denise Johnson and Jeff Justice are going to give you a snapshot of where we are in the process, the creative process for the plan, and then to answer any questions that you may have. So, Andrea?

Andrea Hayes: Good evening. My name is Andrea Hayes and I represent the Healthy Communities Partnership of Southwest Indiana as well as the Welborn Baptist Foundation.

I want to reinforce that the Welborn Baptist Foundation's interest is of course in providing accessible and connectible physical activity opportunities for the public, of which the future Roberts Park would of course be a wonderful opportunity to provide greenspace, parks, and activity for people of all ages as well as of all abilities.

So last year, last June, when the Mayor brought forth his recommendations to this group, based on the assessment process, for which the Evansville residents provided feedback that a park is what they wanted to see sited on the Roberts Stadium property. At that time, we were in the process of applying for a large federal grant on behalf of seven counties and we felt that this was a prime opportunity to build a planning grant proposal into our federal grant application to the Centers for Disease Control. As such, we were approved for the funding, which is where the \$150,000 came from, however it was predicated on that this would not just be a planning grant, that it would indeed be a very tangible product that would then be moved into the construction phase at some point in 2014. That is what we based our application to the federal government on because we were of course assured that this was a process that supported by the public, and of course, supported by the City.

So I just wanted to share that and I thank you for your time.

Parks Director Johnson: Madam President and Councilmembers, Denise Johnson, Director of Parks and Recreation for the City.

I want to follow up on the issue of connectivity. We have \$40,000 for 2013 in CIP funding for a master plan. We're going to be taking that \$40,000 and partnering with the MPO office in order to do a connectivity study. The RFP is currently being designed and we should have it completed probably in the next two to three weeks. We'll RFP at that point and we'll probably get started in January or February of 2014 with a completion of around nine to twelve months. We're pushing to have it done as quickly as possible.

We felt like the master plan was something that had to be done. Part of the reason was the overwhelming response we received from the surveys and then also in the VOICE sessions. Between the surveys and 1700 people attending the VOICE sessions, we did hear that everybody was very interested in what we were going to do with the space, the Parks Department, Parks properties as a whole, and so we felt like one of the things that came out of that was connectivity and making sure everything was connected properly and so we are going to move forward with that study.

As I said, we had an overwhelmingly positive response from all the people who attended the meetings as well responded by surveys, emails, phone calls and in person. We are delaying the final plan. It should be ready in weeks but we took to heart everything that the public told us and we feel like now we present a final plan, it's gonna be one that people are gonna be very pleased with. So with that, I'd like to ask Jeff Justice to update you on the plan.

Jeff Justice: Madam President, Members of the Council, Jeff Justice from Hafer Associates. Thank you for the opportunity and I'll be brief. I won't repeat all of what I feel are optimistic comments that have been made so far.

I do want to let you know that we did take our task seriously and have diligently looked at all the input that we've received and we are, and have met, with a number of stakeholders in organizations that would be major users of this space, such as the skate park enthusiasts. We've met with the Nature Center and the Preserve to learn what their plans are and how our efforts can be coordinated. We've talked to accessibility advocates. We've talked to dog park enthusiasts. We've discussed usage of the current volleyball courts to all of the courts and diamonds out there to understand which ones of those are most important to the functioning of the park. We've touched base with the Tennis Association and certainly even with disc golf representatives on the south side of the Lloyd.

To best understand how we can get all of these individuals and their interests aligned into a 650-acre area that is truly a regional destination, we received excellent suggestions and we are in the process of modifying a plan to incorporate things such as a better location for a dog park than was originally shown on the concept. Things like including water features throughout the park and the idea of that soothing water is critical to this type of environment. Things that are...would seem to be rather obvious, but making sure that there are enough restrooms, that we certainly have ecological approaches to storm water management, the use of natural land forms and natural, native plant materials, overall coordination of entrance features from all the way up on Boeke Road to the secondary entrance off of Vann Avenue, all the way down to the Lincoln Avenue entrance so that this entire area begins to be unified under one feeling and one organizational effort.

We're close, as was said, about pulling all of this feedback together. We're close to being able to show a plan that we hope best accommodates all the things that we heard and we're working diligently on an effort that will phase this construction so that it can be done in affordable pieces and so, as we've already said, so that the budget is not burdened in any one specific year.

We're excited. We think it's a great possibility, great opportunity, and we look forward to a time when we can, very soon, show you exactly what we're talking about. Thank you very much.

President Robinson: Okay, let's start any questions.

Councilman Friend: Yeah. Hey Denise, let me ask you a question. Once the park would be built, what's your estimation on the annual cost to maintain that park?

Parks Director Johnson: I think that that answer is gonna depend upon the final amenities in the park.

Councilman Friend: Well I know but I mean you have to have some idea. Jeff, can you help us with that? I mean, what do you see? What's your vision at the end of the day from the standpoint of maintenance of this?

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Councilman Friend, I think it's too early to tell because a lot of the conversations that we've been having with some of the civic organizations and others that want to take ownership, which has been great, and they want to help maintain and basically, take

ownership of certain aspects of it. So hopefully, as we get farther down the line and we line up those partnerships and those MOUs with those groups we'll have a better understanding but hopefully, you know, it's our hope that it will not be significant...it won't be much greater than currently.

Councilman Friend: Well the reason why I'm saying all this because in the CIP budget for 2015, you have a 20 million dollar number layered in there for Mesker Zoo for the Afghan... that's under the Parks as well. That's 20 million. That comes out to be 1.3 million of bonding we're gonna have to do there. And I believe when I talk to the Controller's Office, we're like a million dollar upside down today in the Parks fund now, so the maintenance is a big issue. That is a major issue.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Sure. Well the good thing is that the biggest part, the biggest land area of the new Roberts Park will be grass so...

Councilman Friend: Mowing, I mean it's a...yeah. You got a lot of mowing there. There's one other thing too is that, well I guess what...in the budget for this year we have, Denise, we got \$600,000 in the LIT that...this is a slippery slope. I brought this up before because the LIT funds were used explicitly for capital improvements and now we're moving on, we're moving that into operations. I...you have...can you comment on that?

Parks Director Johnson: I think it would be hard to just make a very brief comment about it without going into the history of how we got there and you'd have to go back two or three years to understand why we're at the point we are right now

Councilman Friend: Precisely. That's what I'm concerned about.

Unidentified Speaker: And so am I.

President Robinson: I guess one question I had...you said you have organizations that wanted to take ownership of the park.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Well, aspects.

President Robinson: Aspects. Okay. That's great. Have we ever thought about having them to take ownership of the existing parks that we have? Is there any interest in that?

Parks Director Johnson: There actually is and there is growing interest. I would say, not on a weekly basis but on a monthly basis, people are reaching out to me and volunteering for projects, wanting to know what they can do to help so I think that there is a lot more public awareness and there is a lot more desire on the part of the public, whether it's individual or corporations, to get involved and work as a public/private partnership to improve things.

President Robinson: Okay. Thank you.

Yes, Councilman Lindsey.

Councilman Lindsey: I got a question for you, Connie. I heard 'em mention bathrooms, of course that's pretty important even at a dog park. Dogs can go anywhere but people are more restricted. Do you have bathrooms at all the parks in your ward?

President Robinson: Ah...no.

Councilman Lindsey: I remember someone making comments. I've heard the comment made that they have to leave the parks to go to the bathroom and then come back to the park. So...

President Robinson: No, I don't have any bathrooms.

Councilman Lindsey: So you don't have bathrooms in the parks in your ward.

President Robinson: Not on the south side of town.

Councilman Lindsey: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. We got openings in the Sixth Ward if you want to move over there.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: I had a question. I know you had said that you thought that...you made the comment that a lot of this was gonna be grass but you know I've heard dog park, which the current Central Bark is fencing and benches and you've got to run water lines, you know, so that they have access to water. You mentioned water features. I heard the word soothing. You know that sounds like fountains. You know we've paid a lot of money over the years to maintain Garvin's fountain, as well as whenever you have water, you have that whole issue of the algae deal.

You know you're talking about skate parks, there's a lot of maintenance with that. We watched the skate park at Hartke decay til it was no longer usable. Restrooms have a significant amount of maintenance. When you talk about natural landforms and native plants, I mean you're saying landscaping. We struggle to maintain the landscaping at any of the parks. We don't weed, we don't plant significant annuals, you know, out there. You talk about three entrances. I mean that is infrastructure, that's maintenance, that's repairs, that's sidewalks, that's paving you know. And three playgrounds for three different age groups, you know, I mean the playgrounds are a mess in certain parks. The one at Garvin has a broken area. I know that Lorraine, I guess, is getting some new playground equipment next year, but the deal is that the neighborhood had to sort of pitch-in and I don't like that as the new standard for getting playground equipment. I don't think that's what should be required. I don't think the neighbors should...the neighborhood to have to pass the hat.

And you talk about putting 1.5 million in at the same time that we're taking \$600,000 of capital funds to make your budget work. This is the second year that you're asking us to do it and we've never used capital funds to shore up the Parks budget.

And so there's a lot of issues going on when you talk about the 1.5 and I think maintenance is huge because it's the number one complaint that residents have about the current parks so I think it's the biggest issue moving forward when you look about putting...making...and it's...the deal is that we need to decide now because when you talk about a four or five year plan at 1.5 or 2 million dollars a year, once we put this infrastructure in, we're hooked into a four or five year project that is gonna be a million or two a year when we don't have any idea how to meet...how

to make ends meet in our current sixty something structure....facilities and parks and so I think it begs the question of how do we consolidate and shift what we have just to follow our population. You know, we have a lot of parks that, I mean, if we're gonna give away parks, I'd sure like to keep this bright, shiny new one and give away some of the other ones if we're gonna be offering 'em up.

It just doesn't make sense to partner here when we've had all...we've got forty something other opportunities already to be partnering to maintain parks.

Anyway, that's my two cents on the issue but I really, and I don't mean to be critical, I live right down the street from this, I love the idea. I would love to take my kids there. I mean the current playground is not nice. My kids don't go to Wesselmans to play because of the playground, so it's not that I don't want it, you know, but I appreciate your time.

Councilman Friend: Yeah if I may add to that. I'm the same way. I know I like the parks. We...every town has to have 'em. The reason why the maintenance is so crucial because we had this same thing with the Amazonia when it was built, okay. Great facility, no question about it. I mean it truly is. Costs a lot of money to maintain that. When I came on the...when I came on Council, we were upside down at the zoo by 2.2 million dollars. That's what the number was. Today it's 3.7 million. I've been here six years so maintenance is definitely a question we gotta get our hands on if we want to add on any new stuff. Has to find what that number is.

President Robinson: Okay. Councilman Adams.

Councilman Adams: Guys, I don't want to rain on your parade but I reluctantly voted for tearing down Roberts Stadium. We obviously had to. It was an eyesore, it would be dangerous and so forth, but I was under the understanding that we did not commit ourselves to this pie in the sky, 1.5, two, three...ending up with seven or eight and the suggestion I've made to Ms. Johnson was that you spend five or ten thousand dollars on wildflower seeds and that would be a very simple field of wildflowers for two or three years until we get our numbers right side up. So I'm not in favor of this at this particular time, and I'm sorry. I'm not trying to hurt your feelings but I gotta be honest with you.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Sure. Just to close, unless anybody has any other questions.

Councilman Adams: Well, I'm under the impression that the Administration already knew that we were not, some of us, were not in favor of putting up the 1.5 million for this year.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Well we just. We learned about it in the media this week.

Councilman Adams: We've also got the Africa thing, that's what, 25 million, I mean, up at the zoo, I mean...

Councilman Friend: its 20....

Councilman Adams: We're just pulling money out of the sky here.

Councilman Friend: It's 20 million and then we have five million worth of infrastructure in the zoo on top of it, so...

Councilman Adams: Yeah.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Well, and those are placeholders. I mean no decision has been made on 2015.

Councilman Friend: Oh, I know but I mean I saw that in CIP very quickly.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: I mean that...yeah. I mean a lot of those are wish lists...

Councilman Friend: I mean this was really...
Speaking Simultaneously

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: But I think its relative...
Speaking Simultaneously

Councilman Adams: *(Inaudible)* a wish list too as far as I'm concerned.
Speaking Simultaneously

Chief of Staff Schaefer: I mean that's how they work...

President Robinson: Well I think...

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Well, I just encourage you to...if you are attending any of the public meetings on...

Speaking Simultaneously

President Robinson: John? John, did you tell *(Inaudible)* budget and that we were looking toward that?

I think Councilman Friend has mentioned to the Administration that three or four thou...four million need to come out of the budget and that we were looking at that 1.5 million for infrastructure for Roberts Park, that was part of it.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Okay.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: But I hear what you're saying about when you applied for the grant, you know, in terms of what you're saying and the timing of the use of the funds and that you're trying to use the planning grant in 13 to start construction in 14. Is that what I heard you say?

Parks Director Johnson: *(Off Mic)* Well at least by late 14 and of course there wasn't any kind of expectation as far as what that first phase looked like but that there would be a commitment on the City's part to have a first phase whatever that is.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: So you don't have to demonstrate a certain dollar amount of investment but you've got to show some kind of movement on the project.

Councilman Adams: Wildflowers might do it then.

President Robinson: Would wildflowers do it? We need to ask...

Parks Director Johnson: *(Off Mic)* I guess I would only question with the wildflowers, do we still have an accessible way for all people of all abilities to be able get into this full park area because I think that's part of what the year-one was for, right? It was for the infrastructure...

Councilman Adams: You're talking to her; you're not talking to me.

President Robinson: She needs to come to the mic...

Speaking Simultaneously

Councilman Adams: What was she saying?

President Robinson: Excuse me. She needs to come to the microphone so it'll be on record.

Parks Director Johnson: Okay, sorry. The only thing I was going to say about the wildflowers is that they would be lovely but I think the first phase that they were looking at was creating actual infrastructure so people could get into the park, regardless of their ability. Whether they are...

Councilman Adams: You mean a dirt path from four corners into a circle in the middle?

Parks Director Johnson: Whatever that...

Councilman Adams: Yeah.

Parks Director Johnson: Whatever that might look like but yeah. We don't have an expectation as far as what Phase I looks like. We just had shared with the federal government...

Councilman Adams: Well my Phase I is about that big.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: The...but you said there's a couple of things that are going on privately at the same time, and I met with...I can't think of his name; I'm drawing a blank...at the Nature Center and they've got their capital campaign going on. And I think you said they're trying to raise 1.5. I've seen some of the plans for what they're doing, what they're plans are. You mentioned the two...the pedestrian crosswalk. I know that's a completely different project that you're hoping to start in 2015. That's also a private capital...that's...I mean...or is that a State funding issue? Is that what you're trying to coordinate?

Chief of Staff Schaefer: I believe it's State and local funds for that.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: Okay. Okay, so that would be an issue, that would be a budget that would be potentially what you wanted to use whatever we were spending in 15 for.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: No, no that money is separate. That money will be separate. It's...but it...there's connectivity to the State Hospital grounds to Roberts...

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: Right. So we could use capital, I got ya. Okay.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: I just...we're...we stay very positive, optimistic about this plan. It is very exciting. If you attended or saw the news on the various public meetings that we had, hundreds of residents came out in support of greenspace. They liked what they saw in terms of

the conceptual designs so we simply are listening to the residents in making the changes to the plan. We are optimistic and we hope that you will be as well. This is what the community wants and we're simply listening and making those changes so we're more than happy to meet with you and listen to ideas and take into account like we did. We're still taking and making changes based on input from the public so it's an evolving process but one this is sure is that these private groups and organizations don't want to invest and be engaged until there's actually infrastructure in place so those efforts can't start until...

Councilman Adams: But understand, on October 28th we're supposed to vote a budget whether you do get the 1.5 or not. Is that correct?

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Excuse me?

Councilman Adams: Am I incorrect?

President Robinson: Yeah, we vote Oct...yeah we vote.

Councilman Lindsey: Yeah, yeah, uh-hem.

Councilman Friend: Well, what can be done here Dan is we can make amendments to the budget reducing that out. We just can't (*Inaudible*...

Councilman Adams: No, I understand that.

Councilman Friend: Right.

Councilman Adams: You're talking about your, you know, people are...you get a lot of input of people wanting things and so forth and maybe if they wanted to put a hundred dollars or a thousand dollars each they could pay for this wonderful thing they want. The bottom line is two weeks from now we're supposed to vote on the 2014 budget. In that budget is supposedly 1.5 million dollars towards this park.

Councilman Friend: If I may add, I guess my concern about the CIP budget as it relates to the boat money, if you go and you analyze that, we're spending every nickel that was in that budget. That was 14 million, but then after conversations with the boat themselves, that number's been backed off two million. Now we don't have 14 now we're only estimating 12 million. So there's two million there lost so we go...we talked about this all the time about this boat, they got challenges just like everybody else does so those revenues are a flat line actually moving back and matter of fact the reports on gaming is State-wide it's down. This boat's doing better than most of 'em.

Councilman Adams: It's down 5% or 6%.

Councilman Friend: Yes it is. It's down quite a bit. So you can see that moving back and a lot of sources the funding of all this projects are from the Riverboat, that where it's coming from. Now obviously, we'll have to take less out for fire trucks and police cars as we move forward. This things start mounting up. I made this comment many times before, I said, "What happened last year and what's going on today is not necessarily tomorrow", and I usually find out usually

expenses are up and revenues are down, that's the way it usually works. That's what we need to be cognizant of.

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley: I drove...I live right over there and so I went over there the other day and got out of the car and it's...there's really, you know, there's parking because the soccer fields are back there with the EVSC, the baseball diamond's there. You know there's not...there's nothing, there's really nothing that keeps you from accessing that field now. There's nothing dangerous in it. There's nothing open. There's a little bit of orange fencing here and there that could be frankly taken out, but there's nothing dangerous or prohibiting about this field at this point and I don't...I wouldn't be surprised if we aren't going to see people in it, you know, and I don't know that that should be problem because it is accessible and you're going to see Frisbee out...I mean...and I don't see that's it's...I think it's accessible now.

President Robinson: Is there any other questions from any Councilmembers? Okay, we thank you. If you have some additional information that you want to present to us before budget time or anything that would allow us to continue to get the grant from Welborn Hospital with us giving as little money as possible, less than the 1.5 million, please feel free to call us up.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Will do.

President Robinson: Thank you.

Chief of Staff Schaefer: Thank you.

President Robinson: Okay, next under Miscellaneous I have Berniece Tirmenstein please.

Berniece Tirmenstein: Berniece Tirmenstein, 1636 E. Blackford Avenue.

I am speaking about the LST, Landing Ship Transport, 325 here in Evansville, Indiana. The question remains will the 325 LST remain here in Evansville commemorating an important historical event in world history. It was the LSTs that were credited in winning World War II. Recently I gained this information from a reliable source. Ten years ago, a contract was made by the City of Evansville with the LST involving several mayors that has never been fulfilled. These are the specifications of the contract.

1. To build a World War II museum
2. Have signs for the LST
3. Publicity about it

Why has the City not met their obligation? There's a lot of history and this 325 LST is a symbol of what was done for liberty.

Some of you may have read the book written by Mike Whicker that tells the story of how a young German woman spy came here to try sabotage this shipyard and was apprehended by the FBI. It's a fascinating read if you haven't read it.

The person giving info on our LST here says, "LST wants to stay here". They may stay another year. They are being sought by Jeffersonville, Indiana. The City of Evansville should have

priority in the City budget. When does a dog park, in Roberts Park, take precedence over the contract with the LST?

I'm a veteran of World War II. I joined the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corp in 1945. I want this LST to stay here, so get informed and be active. It's worth fighting for. Thank you.

President Robinson: *(Off Mic)* Thank you. Any questions?

Councilman Adams: Berniece, there is a private group that is putting together a feasibility study that I actually just gave some money to last month in terms...about the World War II museum to compliment the LST. I think it's a very worthwhile thing. They are also trying very hard to find a P47, which is very expensive.

President Robinson: *(Off Mic)* Thank you Berniece.

Cole Raven?

Cole Raven: Members of the Council, my name is Cole Raven. I live at 1512 E. Illinois Street in Evansville. I believe it's in Ward Three and I'm here to speak about the legalization of pygmy goats in Evansville, Indiana.

I own two pygmy goats. They currently reside in Chandler at a friends' pasture because they're currently not allowed in Evansville because the Animal Control ordinance, I think it's 6.20...or 6.05.20 states that large animals cannot reside in the city and it lists goats as large animals, when in fact pygmy goats range from 24 to 70 pounds, which is smaller than most large dogs. They have no upper teeth so they're not dangerous. They're quiet and they don't eat meat as part of their diet so they don't smell. They normally aren't...they're normally just used as pets; they're not used for meat, they're not used for goat milk and they're already legal in Chicago, San Diego, Portland, St. Paul. The diseases that they carry are only transmutable to other pygmy goats so they're not transmutable to humans; they are no danger to us. They're browsers, not grazers so they will not destroy the landscape, they'll just eat the weeds.

So I'm just proposing an amendment to that ordinance to legalize pygmy goats in Evansville.

President Robinson: *(Off Mic)* I'm at a loss for words.

(Laughter)

Councilman Adams: Counselor, where should he start? *(Question directed at Corporate Counsel Ziemer)*

President Robinson: I don't know. Maybe we should just wait until the City Council Attorney...he said he'll get back.

Councilman Adams: Maybe Area Plan?

President Robinson: Animal Control...pardon?

Councilman Adams: Maybe Area Plan? Remember we had that *(Inaudible)* with the chicken thing?

President Robinson: I don't know. Ted...he's the City Attorney, where should we start with this?

Corporate Counsel Ziemer: *(Off Mic)* I think the Area Plan.

Councilman Adams: Yeah.

Corporate Counsel Ziemer: We'll be happy to...

Councilman Adams: We had a chicken problem earlier so maybe this...

Corporate Counsel Ziemer: Talk to them about that.

Councilman Adams:...pygmy goat would...now what do you do when you cross a pygmy goat with a regular goat? Is that...

Cole Raven: It breeds a medium sized goat so it would be about a hundred pounds.

Councilman Adams: You owe me one as a set-up.

President Robinson: Okay, so I guess...this is the City Attorney. Maybe he can give you some guidance and he says it starts with the Area Planning Commission so after the meeting you can talk to Mr. Ziemer...

Cole Raven: Okay.

President Robinson:...and then get back with us.

Councilman Adams: He's a specialist on pygmy goats.

President Robinson: Okay, thank you. Is there anything else under Miscellaneous?

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Re: Ordinance F-2013-20
Date: October 28, 2013
Time: 5:15 p.m.
Notify: Russ Lloyd

RE: Ordinance F-2013-17
Date: October 28, 2013
Time: 5:20 p.m.
Notify: Russ Lloyd

CHAIRMAN FRIEND

Transfers of appropriations, additional appropriations and repeal and re-appropriations of funds for various City funds

Appropriating monies for the purpose of defraying the expenditures of Departments of the City Government, Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2014

RE: Ordinance F-2013-18
Date: October 28, 2013
Time: 5:20 p.m.
Notify: Russ Lloyd

Appropriating monies for the purpose of
defraying the expenditures of the Port
Authority, Fiscal Year beginning January 1,
2014

RE: Ordinance F-2013-19
Date: October 28, 2013
Time: 5:20 p.m.
Notify: Russ Lloyd

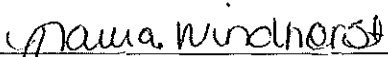
Appropriating monies for the purpose of
defraying the expenditures of the Vanderburgh
County Levee Authority, Fiscal Year January 1,
2014

ADJOURNMENT

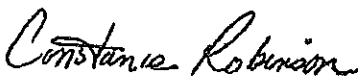
President Robinson: Okay, thank you. Can I have a motion for adjournment?

Councilwoman Brinkerhoff-Riley moved and Councilwoman Mosby seconded the motion to adjourn. Voice Vote. So Ordered.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.



Laura Windhorst, City Clerk



Constance Robinson, President